

COMMITMENT



Texas Department of Health
Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program

June 1999

Volume 8, Number 6

Community Action, Inc. Assists Women with Diagnostic and Treatment Resources

Finding community resources to help women needing diagnostic and treatment services is an ongoing issue with Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) providers. Community Action, Inc. staff are very successful in finding resources in the Central Texas communities they serve.

"Actually, I saw a local doctor personally a few years ago, and then

referred one of our clients there," said Yolanda Carrizales, Clinic Manager for Community Action's Round Rock clinic.

"I spoke with the office manager at the clinic and asked if we could begin referring clients there that needed diagnostic procedures," she said.

The office manager agreed to accept BCCCP reimbursement for diagnostic procedures.

"We're really very lucky, because the agreement was so easy to create," said Carrizales.

"It becomes a little more difficult when a client needs an excisional biopsy," said Carrizales. "Agreements then need to be created with the hospital, the anesthesiologist and the radiologist."

Carrizales say she is pleased with the surgeons who perform the diagnostic procedures.

"They don't wait for me to see the client again, to discuss the diagnosis," she said. "They discuss the diagnosis with the patient immediately."

Staff at Community Action's San Marcos clinic had similar success

Mexia Celebrates Minority Cancer Awareness Week



Minority Cancer Awareness Week -- Kit Prasel, R.N., Public Health Nurse for Region 7 in Mexia gave presentations to minority groups. Pictured above are (left to right) Kay Sneed, Hazel Mays, Macie Lankford, Irene Slaughter, Nell Blakely, Martha Gavan, Mildred Busby, Mae Nell Palmore, Eula Johnson, Blanch Dunbar, Ida Dunbar, and Ellise Fuller. The ladies attended a presentation at Saint James United Methodist Church in Teague.

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BCCCP Briefs

New Staff Members

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) welcomes Shannon Burke as the new Staff Services Officer and Christina Rogers as the new Administrative Technician in the state office.

Who to Call & How to Reach Us...

General Information/Administration:

Margaret Méndez Robert Reeves
Shannon Burke Rhonnda Jones
Christina Rogers

Professional Education, Clinical Services, Case Management:

Karen Knox Karen McAnarney
Claudia Himes

Public Information and Outreach:

Stephen Wright Andrea Littlefield

Data Collection and Maintenance:

Vincent Crawley Codie Prinz
Wanda Gibson Steve Johnson
June Browning Constance Holloway

Data Collection Forms

Wanda Gibson

Cancer Epidemiology/Demographics:

Vacant

Billing:

Kathy Kokel Codie Prinz
Shannon Burke

Texas Department of Health
Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program
1100 West 49th Street, G407
Austin, TX 78756-3199
(512) 458-7644
(800) 452-1955
(512) 458-7650 FAX
email: margaret.mendez (or other staff first name, period and last name)@tdh.state.tx.us

Website Address

<http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/bcccp/>

Local Changes

Please write or call Rhonnda Jones, Administrative Technician, at (800) 452-1955 with **ANY** changes in local telephone numbers, personnel or service delivery sites. *Thank you.*

Rescreening Women a Priority in Fiscal Year 2000

Rescreening is an important objective of the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP). Beginning September 1, 1999 providers must start following the new BCCCP rescreening policy.

The new policy calls for providers to:

- **Counsel** women during their clinic visits on the need to return in one year; and
- **Recall** women no less than one month prior to their annual due date.

In FY 2000, providers must provide breast cancer screening services to at least 40 percent of women who received a BCCCP-funded mammogram in FY1999.

BCCCP is developing materials

to assist providers in recalling women for breast cancer screening. The materials will be field tested among eligible women to evaluate the materials' effectiveness.

The proposed materials will emphasize specific messages, including:

- The importance of women age 50 - 64 getting a mammogram every year.
- Only a doctor can detect slight changes in the breast from year to year.
- Call the clinic to schedule your next appointment.

If you have any questions regarding rescreening and rescreening messages, contact Steve Wright, Public Information Coordinator, at (800) 452-1955.

July Training to Emphasize Message: "I'll See You Next Year"

Each Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) provider must send a staff person to a one-day training in July on the BCCCP's new rescreening policy. The training -- **I'll See You Next Year** -- will emphasize new requirements to **bring back** women for screening at

recommended intervals. The new policy goes into effect on September 1, 1999.

The person who will be responsible for each provider's rescreening efforts should attend the training. BCCCP will reimburse travel ex-

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Mission

The mission of the Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program is to reduce the impact of breast and cervical cancer in Texas by promoting access to quality information, screening, diagnosis and treatment in Texas communities.

Goal

The goal of the Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program is to reduce premature mortality from breast cancer and cervical cancer in Texas.

Ask The Expert

You can submit questions on any subject related to the program such as nursing, case management, billing, data or outreach. Send questions to Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, TX 78756-3199.

Q Our Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program Manual of Operations is dated September of 1998. Will there be an updated version?

A Yes. Some sections of the Manual of Operations will be revised. You will receive updated components by August. Updates will include revised breast protocols and policies. If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the new Manual of Operations, call Margaret C. Méndez, Program Director, at (800) 452-1955 by July 1, 1999.

Join the 2000 Conference Planning Committee

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) plans to hold a state conference in early 2000. BCCCP is looking for a few good people to serve on the conference planning committee. If you are interested in being on this committee, contact Stephen Wright, Public Information Coordinator, or Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist, at (800) 452-1955 by July 1.

July Training: I'll See You Next Year

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penses for one person per provider with prior written approval.

Each person attending the training must review and prepare materials in advance of the training. In order for participants to have ample preparation time, **participants must register no later than Monday, June 14.** Call Christina

Rogers, Administration Technician, at (800) 452-1955 to register.

2nd Quarter Milestone Awards Announced

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) announces that two providers: Memorial Health Systems of East Texas and University of Texas Medical Branch in McAllen, met the criteria during this period to win a Milestone Award.

The criteria consisted of meeting the proposed population to be served and consistently serving that population with timely follow-up. BCCCP looked at abnormal breast cases referred for diagnostic services and the percentage of those diagnostic cases that were completed within 60 days.

Congratulations to:

- **Memorial Health Systems of East Texas - Lufkin**
- **University of Texas Medical Branch - McAllen**

If you have any questions regarding the Milestone Awards, contact Wanda Gibson, Public Health Technician, at (800) 452-1955.

Feedback on Training Modules

Providers are requested to share comments and suggestions on the program training modules with Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist, or Claudia Himes, Nurse Consultant, at (800) 452-1955. Revised text, slides and transparencies should arrive by the end of June. Contact Rhonnda Jones, Administrative Technician, at (800) 452-1955 with any questions on getting the revised materials.

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working with physicians in their community. Clinic staff began by sending letters to all the surgeons in town. Staff received responses that stated the surgeons would not accept the payment mentioned in the letter.

Janie Vargas, Clinic Manager for the San Marcos clinic, decided that talking with the surgeons personally would be more effective.

"I started with a physician who I knew had practiced in the community for a long time," Vargas said. "He accepted the payments and now has another surgeon on staff who will also accept the payments."

"I think it takes a personal touch to get the local surgeons to want to participate in the Program," she said.

"Getting treatment for clients was one of the things with which we were having a problem," Vargas explained.

"Our newest surgeon will now help us with getting patients into St. David's hospital in Austin," she said. "This will be to our advantage and the

advantage of our clients."

No woman receiving BCCCP services has been diagnosed with cancer since this latest agreement. But clinic staff are certain that this surgeon's assistance will eventually help more women get needed treatment.

For more information on Community Action's resource development procedures, contact Yolanda Carrizales, Clinic Manager in Round Rock, at (512) 248-3261 or Janie Vargas, Clinic Manager in San Marcos, at (512) 392-8728.

BCCCP Statistics*

Women Served:

111,462

Breast Screenings:

137,507

Cervical Screenings:

102,423

Breast Cancers:

711

Cervical Carcinoma in situ:

1526

Invasive Cervical Cancer:

52

*As of May 14, 1999

Important Dates

June

June 14 - Registration Deadline for July Training

June 15 - Deadline for comments on Manual of Operations

July

July 1- Deadline to volunteer for state meeting committee

July 15 - *Commitment* survey due

July 21 - Rescreening Training Austin

July 28 - Rescreening Training Harlingen

August

August 27 - LBJ's Birthday
State Office Closed

September

September - Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

September 1 - New Rescreening Policy goes into effect

September 6 - Labor Day
State Office Closed

October

October - Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October 1- Breast Cancer Awareness Day (Wreath Project)

Commitment

A monthly bulletin

Send news/information to:

**Texas Department of Health
Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program**

1100 West 49th Street

Austin, TX 78756-3199

Telephone: (800) 452-1955

Fax: (512) 458-7650

Email: andrea.littlefield@tdh.state.tx.us

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED